

**Vermillion County Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**

July 10, 2017

6:30 p.m.

Commissioner's Courtroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Courthouse

- I. Call to Order. The Vermillion County Council convened in a regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 10, 2017.
- II. Roll Call. Members present were Brent Bush, Ashley James, Randy Dreher, Jim McLain, Jill Wesch, Mike Carty, Bob Spence, Auditor Amy Tolbert, First Deputy Auditor Stephanie Hillyer and Attorney Don Darnell.
- III. Approval of Minutes. A motion was made by Mike Carty and seconded by Brent Bush to approve the May 8, 2017 minutes as amended. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mike Carty and seconded by Ashley James to approve the June 12, 2017 minutes as amended. All in favor, motion carried. A motion was made by Mike Carty and seconded by Bob Spence to approve the June 23, 2017 special meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.
- IV. County Treasurer's Report. Jill Wesch acknowledged receipt of the county Treasurer's Report.
- V. Comp Time Report. Jill Wesch commented that the comp time went down \$223.00 from last month.
- VI. Transfer of Funds.
- Reporting only. EOC \$15.00 from Electricity & Natural Gas to Copy Machine Maintenance.
- Reporting only. EOC \$885.00 from Building & Structure Personal Property Liability to Public Safety.
- Reporting only. PHPER \$60.00 from Equipment Maintenance to Storage Unit Rental.
- Reporting only. Stop Grant \$58.50 from Medicare to Unemployment.
- VII. Additional Appropriations.
- The Council considered additional appropriation requests as published. President Jill Wesch reviewed the appropriations from the written requests submitted by Auditor Amy Tolbert. Thus, the following ordinance was adopted: WHEREAS: it has been determined it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget for 2017, BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Council of Vermillion County Indiana, for the expenses of said county government, the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set out of the funds herein specified, subject to the law governing the same:

FUND/DEPT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED
PHPER	\$37,537.85	\$37,537.85
A motion was made by Bob Spence and seconded by Jim McLain to allow the additional appropriation for PHPER. All in favor, motion carried. This is to set up the budget for the 2017-2018 PHPER grant year.		
EOC	\$8,850.00	\$8,850.00
This is the 2016 Emergency Management Performance Grant – Competitive. It will be used to purchase equipment for the County Emergency Response Trailer.		
EOC	\$11,343.10	\$11,343.10

This is the 2016 State Homeland Security Performance Grant – Sustainment. It will be used to purchase consumable and damaged materials and fund repairs and maintenance on Task Force Equipment.

EOC	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
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This is the 2016 State Homeland Security Performance Grant – Competitive. It will be used to purchase a Portable Tower for communications during disaster or long term response in parts of the county that normally have poor communications capabilities.

A motion was made by Brent Bush and seconded by Bob Spence to approve all three additional appropriations for EOC. All in favor, motion carried.

#### VIII. Open Issues.

- a. LIT (Local Income Tax). Wesch said the council received Resolution 2017-5 from the City of Clinton recommending adoption of Local Income Tax (LIT). The resolution recommended a LIT rate of 1.2% and be divided as 0.3% for Public Safety, 0.3% for Economic Development, 0.3% for Certified Shares and 0.3% for Property Tax Relief (divided equally between residential, agriculture and commercial property owners). Clinton City Mayor Jack Gilfoy said that since the city's population is less than 10,000, they have to rely on the county to levy taxes. He stated that the proposed tax increase would not only help the city, but the county, schools, libraries, towns and townships. Sheriff Mike Phelps said the proposal by the Clinton City Council is right on par with what he would be asking for. Council Attorney Don Darnell said that the county may have to put a tax in place with approval from the state legislature to fund the expansion of the Vermillion County Jail, or the construction of a new jail. Darnell suggested it might be better to wait and coordinate the two taxes, so that the county would only have to go through the public hearing process once and the people would get the full impact of both at the same time. City Councilman Dean Strohm asked if there was a timeline for the county to approve a tax increase. Wesch explained that in order to begin receiving tax money in 2018, that tax must go into effect October 1, which means it must be approved by August 31. Carty said that the county could also begin putting money aside to fund the jail expansion or replacement. He said we may not know what we're going to do with the jail right now, but there's going to be a need, and we could start putting some of the money aside. Carty also stated that he felt the council needed to start moving forward, one way or another. He asked the council "are we against this, or what do we want to do as the next step?" Wesch said she is not opposed. Wesch stated that if we're not going to invest in ourselves, no one else is going to either. After further discussion it was decided to have a special meeting and request Jason Semmler of Umbaugh and Associates, the commissioners and representatives of other taxing units be in attendance. Wesch said she will try to get a special meeting for July 17, 2017. Darnell said he would draft an ordinance to be submitted to the state.
- b. Abatement Compliance.
  1. Tin Inc.
  2. Garmong
  3. White Construction
  4. Meadow Park Apt. LP
  5. 515 East 4<sup>th</sup> St. LLC

## 6. Eli Lilly

Wesch stated that the Economic Development Council had approved all the abatement compliances. Randy Dreher asked who was benefiting from the Garmong abatement on the shell building at Vermillion Rise Mega Park. Carty said that currently Garmong was, but that the abatement would transfer to whoever bought the building for the duration of the abatement.

A motion was made by Mike Carty to approve abatement compliances from Tin Inc., Garmong, White Construction, Meadow Park Apt. LP, 515 East 4<sup>th</sup> St. LLC and Eli Lilly. Seconded by Jill Wesch, Randy Dreher opposed, motion carried.

## IX. New Business.

- a. Ambulance Proposals. Commissioner Tim Wilson said the commissioners hoped to finish negotiations with the two Ambulance services and have a final proposal for the council by their August meeting, but that he wanted the council to know that the proposals were higher than the current contract of approximately \$290,000. The Commissioners received two proposals, one from Vermillion County EMS and one from Edgar County Special Service Area Ambulance, Inc. The proposed costs for the next three years were as follows:  
Vermillion County EMS advanced level service - \$575,326.44 for 2018, \$583,845.68 for 2019 and \$592,475.64 for 2020. Paramedic level service - \$655,326.44 for 2018, \$663,845.68 for 2019 and \$672,475.67 for 2020.  
Edgar County Special Service Area Ambulance, Inc. advanced level service - \$325,000.00 for 2018, \$334,750.00 for 2019 and \$394,792.50 for 2020. Paramedic level service - \$410,000.00 for 2018, \$422,300.00 for 2019 and \$434,969.00 for 2020.  
Eric Shaugnessey from Edgar County Special Service Area Ambulance, Inc. explained the difference between the basic, advanced and paramedic levels for ambulance services. Shaugnessey stated that Vermillion County currently has basic level service. He said that advanced level services can do additional things such as start an IV, conduct cardiac monitoring and administer some medications. He also said that paramedics can pretty much do everything that can be done in the emergency room by a nurse. Councilman Brent Bush asked Shaugnessey if he planned to employ local people, if he was awarded the contract. Shaugnessey said his company has a stringent hiring process, but if they can pass it he would be glad to hire them, because they know the area. There was some discussion regarding whether Shaugnessey would have ambulances bypass Union Hospital Clinton and take patients to Terre Haute. Mike Carty stated that we don't want to lose our hospital. Shaugnessey stated that there will be cases where Union Hospital Clinton may not have the proper facilities to treat a patient, and in those cases, he would bypass to Terre Haute. Bob Spence asked Shaugnessey if he would provide his own dispatch service, and Shaugnessey said dispatch would be handled through the sheriff's department. Commissioner Tim Yocum asked what would happen if the council decided the county doesn't have the money to fund any of the proposals, and Wesch said that was one of the reasons the county is discussing Local Income Taxes. Commissioner Tim Wilson said they would try to have a recommendation for the council by their next meeting.

- X. Amended Salary Ordinance. Mary Crotty from the Health Department presented the Council with an Amended Salary Ordinance for the Public Health Coordinator that is paid out of the PHER Fund. She asked the council if they needed additional

information when she comes back in August for the Amended Salary Ordinance. No one commented on needing more information.

XI. Tim Yocum thanked the council members who came to the special meeting to approve the additional appropriation for the highway department to use to apply for grant matching.

XII. Mike Carty stated that as of June 30, 2017 the county has spent \$640,000.00 out of county general commissioners court insurance line item, he said if we had spent half it would have been \$731,000.00. If this trend continues he would like to give back to the employees in some type of stipend since the employees did not get a raise this year.

Having no further business to come before the Council, the motion was made to adjourn by Randy Dreher, seconded by Jim McLain. All in favor, motion carried.

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**NAY**

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Jill Wesch, President

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Mike Carty, Vice President

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Brent Bush

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Ashley James

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Jim McLain

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Randy Dreher

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Bob Spence

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ATTEST:

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Amy Tolbert, Auditor